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LIVONIA MALL

Bulldogs Swim To League Title

For the first time in the school's history, Bentley High rules as the Suburban Six League's swimming champs.

A 9-1 regular season dual meet record, plus a second place finish in the league meet combined to give the title to Bentley.

In the all-league meet it was Plymouth with 59 points which took honors, while Bentley had 57 and Redford Union 42.

The fact that Plymouth placed fourth in dual action with a 3-6-1 record ruined the Rocks' chances to take the overall crown.

Plymouth took second to Bentley for the grand crown while Belleville was third. Allen Park fourth, Redford Union fifth and Trenton sixth.

Here's how Bentley, Plymouth and Redford Union swimmers placed in the all-league meet:

MEDLEY RELAY: 1-Plymouth (LaBlanc, Kinder, Kray, Norman); Redford Union, third; Bentley sixth. Time: 1:46.2.

200 FREESTYLE: 3-Mike Stokley (RU); 6-Save LaCasse (P); 4-Belleville (B); 5-Plymouth (P); 2-Rogers (B); 1-Rogers (B). Time: 2:08.8.

50 FREESTYLE: 1-Stave Flay (P); 3-Kyle Connolly (B); 4-Jim Walker (P); 6-Lee Prutton (P). Time: 22.6.

DIVING: 1-Randy Schulz (RU); 4-Hooker Walman (P); 5-Mike McKee (P); 3-Gary Wain (P); 100 BUTTERFLY: 3-Save Grant (B); 6-Pete Kuchner (P); 6-Bill Eto (P).

100 FREESTYLE: 4-Randy Read (RU); 5-Rike Lawless (B); 6-Dan Bower (P); 400 FREESTYLE: 2-Save LaCasse (P); 3-Mike Stokley (RU); 4-Tom Stokley (RU).

100 BACKSTROKE: 1-Save Four- (B); 3-Paul Smith (RU); 4-Lou Mohr (B); 5-Larry LaCasse (P). Time: 1:58.9 seconds.

100 BREASTSTROKE: 1-Mark Kinder (P); 2-Roger Simpson (B); 3-Scott Wain (B); 4-Jeff Bucker (P); 5-Bill Simpson (RU). Time: 1:06.8.

400 FREESTYLE: 1-Bentley (Connolly, Lawless, Powless, Mohr); 2-Plymouth (B); 3-Redford Union. Time: 3:25.4.

observing sports

There are those who knock our youngsters ... who knock society in general.

One gent, who deals with insurance, told us not so long ago:

"The kids today are terrible. We'd like to get rid of as many as possible."

He was thinking of dollars and cents only, which is unfortunate.

Maybe young drivers have a tendency to drive faster than older ones. Perhaps, they become involved in more accidents, which means more outlays by the insurance folks.

But to call the kids "terrible." This man should be ashamed of himself.

How he can look into a mirror when he shaves each morning and take pride in himself is a miracle. What he needs is somebody to drag him along to a high school ... to a basketball, or swimming meet ... and let him look at these kids in the flesh.

Maybe he'd take another look at things and forget that everything in this world boils down to just dollars and cents ... and we'll grant that the mighty buck can be pretty important.

OUR "KNOCKING" FRIEND wouldn't have had to go very far the other evening.

He operates in Birmingham, so it would have been a short hike over to Seaholm High for the district semifinal between Brother Rice and Birmingham Groves or the district final which matched Brother Rice against host Seaholm.

What he'd have seen are thousands of youngsters who are dedicated to their individual schools ... kids who are motivated by what's good ... and who is there to say that sports aren't good?

He'd have seen few kids in mod, wild attire.

The gals dressed in cute clothes. Their hair was trim, nothing like you'd see along hippy road in many major communities ... and even in many of our suburban areas today.

The fellas, well, looking around, I spotted very few with "girls-type" hairdos. I sat there wondering to myself if perhaps the school administrators had put through some kind of an order, barring long hair for the boys.

But there they all were, over 4,000 of them, split 50-50 cheering for their favorite team.

These were the kids our man called "terrible and wild."

He's missing out on something good when he just looks at driving records all day and tries to judge our leaders of tomorrow on just that basis.

HE SHAKES UP my insides when in connection with son Douglas this gent keeps looking back at the first year of the kid's driving record and shows two tickets for excessive speed.

That the kid learned by his early mistakes and since has had no speeding tickets doesn't move our man behind the insurance desk.

The older, so-called scholarly gent, says the company goes by the fact one's record is checked for four years.

But somehow, the company misses the fact that if one is nailed for speeding in the first year and then goes on the next three with no such charges, it should be a "plus" in the driver's favor.

How many students have had early troubles in school? How many have had difficulties with reading, writing or arithmetic?

But they work a little harder, get a little help and within a couple of years they're doing much better.

The school administrators know enough to forget about the past ... to deal with the present ... and recognize when progress has been made.

But apparently there are others who don't. They like to keep bringing up the past ... and this is not a world of the past.

Goodness knows, we have enough problems today ... and who knows what our problems will be tomorrow?

ONE TRUSTS that men like the man who cries "kids are terrible" will take a better look at the overall situation.

Chances are today's kids are better. Certainly, the records show they are smarter and, as athletes, much better than their dads or grandfathers.

Chargers Nipped

Stevenson High's hockey team closes its regular schedule Wednesday night playing Bentley at the Ford Arena and then takes on Bentley in a post-season title game Saturday at the same arena.

Stevenson tightened its hold on second place in the All-Livonia league by gaining a 4-3 victory over Churchill.

It was Stevenson's fifth win against two losses and four ties in league play while finishing second to Bentley.

Don Finn scored the first two Stevenson goals. Then Frank Geluso connected before John Koivuhalmu drilled in what proved the winner.

Hawks' 1st Cage Five Loses District Finals

They won't forget the first basketball season at Farmington's new Harrison High.

Without a senior in the school and without a senior on the team, Harrison made it to the district championships at Northville.

But Harrison could advance no farther.

The title game matching Harrison against Inkster shaped up as a collision of a "giant" and a "baby."

Inkster was the giant, Harrison the baby.

They always has been one of the powers of state Class B basketball. This year has been no different.

In Mid-Wayne League play, Inkster tied with Garden City East for the title.

In the district, Inkster crushed Northville and then breezed past Harrison, 194-51, to gain the regional which starts Wednesday at Temperance Bedford.

Harrison didn't have much of a chance against Inkster. The winners took a 24-15 lead in the first period and coasted along from there.

Earlita Faust, a 6-3 forward, almost singlehandedly scored enough to beat Harrison. Faust drilled in 34 points.

He sank his first seven shots, from then on, his team was in command.

Joe Thomas led Harrison with 22 points as he clicked on nine baskets and four free throws.

Romulus Too Much For Glenn In Title Game

By BOB MCLELLAN

An ice-cold shooting performance and loss of the team's first string guard combined to help send John Glenn down to defeat at the hands of a fast, solid Romulus squad, 67-47, in the district finals of the state basketball tournament at Glenn.

"We simply couldn't hit from the floor," declared Glenn coach, Gordie Davis.

"Otherwise the outcome might have been different."

The Rockets scored on only 17 of 68 field goal attempts for a chilly 26%. Romulus hit on 40% of its shots from the floor.

In addition, Glenn played without Dave Wyrakiewicz, the team's top scorer. The senior backcourt man suffered torn ligaments in his right knee in the Taylor Kennedy game two nights earlier.

MARK SZMANSKY provided the only offensive bright spot for the Rockets. The senior reserve guard chalked up 13 points in little more than 12 minutes of play in the second half.

Nate Davis, 6-7 Romulus center, pitched in six points to help move his team off to a 19-9 first-quarter lead. The visitors upped their margin to 35-17 at the half, with Davis dumping in eight more points, owned a 54-30 bulge at the end of the third stanza. Davis pumped in seven points in the final period.

Davis led all scorers with 24 markers. Teammates John Long and Calvin Harris jumped the mesh for 18 and 12 points respectively.

The invaders outscored Glenn, 35-21, and canned 21 of 32 charity shots for 65%.

Glenn notched 13 of 18 gift attempts for 67%.

Counting tournament victories over Wayne Memorial and Taylor Kennedy, Glenn wound up the season with an overall mark of 7-12.

The box scores:

JOHN GLENN (47) G F T
Lee 1 1 3
John 1 1 3
Harris 2 3 7
Marchand 1 2 4
Agnew 2 0 4

ROMULUS (67) G F T
Davis 7 10 24
Buckley 4 4 8
Harris 4 4 8
Long 6 8 18
Simmone 2 0 4
Totals 23 21 67



SMALL WONDER that John Glenn cagers couldn't cope with Romulus in the district tournament finals on the Glenn Court. Rebounding like this had Glenn behind all the way. St. Agnew (23), Gary Pack (33) and Tim Harlow (35) tried but didn't get the ball (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

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